

homestead exemptions from ad valorem taxation under Section 11.13, Tax Code, *and the applicability to certain individuals of additional notice provisions under Subchapters C and D, Chapter 23, Tax Code*, the department shall provide, without charge, to the chief appraiser of each appraisal district in this state:

- (1) a copy of each driver's license record or personal identification certificate record held by the department; or
- (2) information relating to the name, date of birth, driver's license or personal identification certificate number, and most recent address as shown in the records of individuals included in the department's driver's license or personal identification certificate records.

SECTION 8. The change in law made by this Act applies only to a determination by a chief appraiser that an individual 65 years of age or older is no longer eligible to have land appraised as provided by Subchapter C or D, Chapter 23, Tax Code, that is made on or after the effective date of this Act. A determination by a chief appraiser that an individual 65 years of age or older is no longer eligible to have land appraised as provided by Subchapter C or D, Chapter 23, Tax Code, that is made before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect at the time the determination was made, and that law is continued in effect for that purpose.

SECTION 9. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.

Passed by the House on April 30, 2015: Yeas 139, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting;  
passed by the Senate on May 23, 2015: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Approved June 9, 2015.

Effective September 1, 2015.

## ROUTE DESIGNATION FOR THE ISSUANCE OF A PERMIT FOR THE MOVEMENT OF OVERSIZE AND OVERWEIGHT VEHICLES IN CERTAIN COUNTIES

### CHAPTER 353

H.B. No. 1741

#### AN ACT

**relating to route designation for the issuance of a permit for the movement of  
oversize and overweight vehicles in certain counties.**

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:*

SECTION 1. Section 623.219(a), Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) For a permit issued by a port authority located in a county that borders the United Mexican States, the commission shall, with the consent of the port authority, designate the most direct route from:

(1) the Gateway International Bridge or the Veterans International Bridge at Los Tomates to the entrance of the Port of Brownsville using State Highways 48 and 4 or United States Highways 77 and 83 or using United States Highway 77 and United States Highway 83, East Loop Corridor, and State Highway 4; and

(2) the Free Trade International Bridge to:

(A) the entrance of the Port of Brownsville using Farm-to-Market Road 509, United States Highways 77 and 83, Farm-to-Market Road 511, State Highway 550, and East Loop (State Highway 32);

(B) the eastern entrance of the Port of Harlingen using Farm-to-Market Road 509, United States Highway 77 Business, and Farm-to-Market Road 1846;

(C) the western entrance of the Port of Harlingen using Farm-to-Market Roads 509 and 106;

*(D) the southern entrance of the Harlingen Industrial Park using Farm-to-Market Road 509; and*

*(E) the southern entrance of the Harlingen Aerotropolis at Valley International Airport using Farm-to-Market Road 509.*

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.

Passed by the House on May 5, 2015: Yeas 145, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting; passed by the Senate on May 23, 2015: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Approved June 9, 2015.

Effective September 1, 2015.

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**DISCLOSURE IN CERTAIN JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF  
CONFIDENTIAL COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN A  
PHYSICIAN AND A PATIENT AND CONFIDENTIAL PATIENT  
RECORDS**

**CHAPTER 354**

H.B. No. 1779

**AN ACT**

**relating to the disclosure in certain judicial proceedings of confidential communications between a physician and a patient and confidential patient records.**

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:*

SECTION 1. Section 159.002, Occupations Code, is amended by adding Subsections (f) and (g) to read as follows:

*(f) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter other than Sections 159.003(a)(10) and (c), a communication or record that is otherwise confidential and privileged under this section may be disclosed or released by a physician without the patient's authorization or consent if the disclosure or release is related to a judicial proceeding in which the patient is a party and the disclosure or release is requested under a subpoena issued under:*

- (1) the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure;*
- (2) the Code of Criminal Procedure; or*
- (3) Chapter 121, Civil Practice and Remedies Code.*

*(g) Subsection (f) does not prevent a physician from claiming, or otherwise limit the authority of a physician to claim, the privilege of confidentiality on behalf of a patient.*

SECTION 2. Section 159.003(a), Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) An exception to the privilege of confidentiality in a court or administrative proceeding exists:

- (1) in a proceeding brought by a patient against a physician, including:
  - (A) a malpractice proceeding; or
  - (B) a criminal proceeding or license revocation proceeding in which the patient is a complaining witness and disclosure is relevant to a claim or defense of the physician;
- (2) if the patient or a person authorized to act on the patient's behalf submits a written consent to the release of confidential information as provided by Section 159.005;
- (3) in a proceeding to substantiate and collect on a claim for medical services provided to the patient;